

Food Code Numbers and the Food Coding Scheme

In the Food and Nutrient Database for Dietary Studies (FNDDS), the primary (usually generic) description of a given food is assigned a unique 8-digit food code. The food code is assigned according to a scheme that associates the first three or four digits of the code number with specific food groups and subgroups. The first digit in the food code identifies one of nine major food groups:

- (1) milk and milk products
- (2) meat, poultry, fish, and mixtures
- (3) eggs
- (4) legumes, nuts, and seeds
- (5) grain products
- (6) fruits
- (7) vegetables
- (8) fats, oils, and salad dressings
- (9) sugars, sweets, and beverages

The second, third, and (sometimes) fourth digits of a food code identify increasingly more specific subgroups within the nine major food groups. The remaining digits are used to identify particular foods within a numerical sequence. Shown below is an example of a food item and how the first three digits signify which groups the food item belongs to:

55103000 Pancakes, with fruit

- The first digit (5) means this food item is in the **Grain Products** section.
- The first two digits (55) mean this item is in the **Pancakes, Waffles, French Toast, Other Grain Products** section.
- The first three digits (551) mean this food item is in the **Pancake** section.

The complete Food Coding Scheme begins on the next page.

Food Coding Scheme

1 Milk and Milk Products

11 Milks and milk drinks

- 110 Milk, human
- 111 Milk, fluid (regular; filled; buttermilk; and dry reconstituted)
- 112 Milk, fluid, evaporated and condensed
- 113 Milk, fluid, imitation
- 114 Yogurt
 - 1148 Yogurt, baby food
- 115 Flavored milk and milk drinks, fluid
- 116 Milk-based meal replacements, fluid
- 117 Infant formulas, fluid, reconstituted concentrate, reconstituted dry, and ready-to-feed (milk-based formulas; soy-based formulas; therapeutic formulas)
- 118 Milk, dry, and powdered mixtures with dry milk, not reconstituted

12 Creams and cream substitutes

- 121 Sweet dairy cream
- 122 Cream substitutes
- 123 Sour cream

13 Milk desserts, sauces, gravies

- 131 Milk desserts, frozen
- 132 Puddings, custards, and other milk desserts
- 133 Milk desserts baby food
- 134 White sauces and milk gravies

14 Cheeses

- 140 Cheese, NS¹ as to type
- 141 Natural cheeses
- 142 Cottage cheeses
- 143 Cream cheeses
- 144 Processed cheeses and cheese spreads
- 145 Imitation cheeses
- 146 Cheese mixtures
- 147 Cheese soups

¹ NS = not specified.

2 Meat, Poultry, Fish and Mixtures

20 Meat, NS as to type

200 Meat, NS as to type

21 Beef

210 Beef, NFS²

211 Beef steak

213 Beef oxtails, neckbones, short ribs, head

214 Beef roasts, stew meat, corned beef, beef brisket, sandwich steaks

215 Ground beef, beef patties, beef meatballs

216 Other beef items (beef bacon; dried beef; pastrami)

217 Beef baby food

22 Pork

220 Pork, NFS; ground, dehydrated

221 Pork chops

222 Pork steaks, cutlets

223 Ham

224 Pork roasts

225 Canadian bacon

226 Bacon, salt pork

227 Other pork items (spareribs; cracklings; skin; miscellaneous parts)

228 Pork baby food

23 Lamb, veal, game, other carcass meat

230 Lamb, NFS

231 Lamb and goat

232 Veal

233 Game

234 Lamb or veal baby food

24 Poultry

241 Chicken (breast; leg; drumstick; wing; back; neck or ribs; misc.)

242 Turkey

243 Duck

244 Other poultry

247 Poultry baby food

25 Organ meats, sausages and lunchmeats, and meat spreads

251 Organ meats and mixtures

2511 Liver

2512 Hearts

2513 Kidney

2514 Sweetbreads

2515 Brains

2516 Tongue

² NFS = not further specified.

- 2517 Other variety meats
- 252 Frankfurters, sausages, lunchmeats, meat spreads
 - 2521 Frankfurters
 - 2522 Sausages
 - 2523 Luncheon meats (loaf)
 - 2524 Potted meat, spreads
- 26 *Fish and shellfish***
 - 261 Finfish
 - 262 Other seafood
 - 263 Shellfish
- 27 *Meat, poultry, fish with nonmeat items***
 - 271 Meat, poultry, fish in gravy or sauce or creamed
 - 2711 Beef in gravy or sauce (tomato-based sauce; gravy; cream, white, or soup-based sauce; soy-based sauce; other sauce; Puerto Rican)
 - 2712 Pork with gravy or sauce
 - 2713 Lamb and veal with gravy or sauce
 - 2714 Poultry with gravy or sauce (tomato-based sauce; gravy; cream, white, or soup-based sauce; soy-based sauce; other sauces; Puerto Rican)
 - 2715 Fish, shellfish with gravy or sauce
 - 2716 Miscellaneous meats with gravy or sauce
 - 272 Meat, poultry, fish with starch item (include white potatoes)
 - 2721 Beef with starch item (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread; Puerto Rican)
 - 2722 Pork with starch item
 - 2723 Lamb, veal, game with starch item
 - 2724 Poultry with starch item (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread)
 - 2725 Fish, shellfish with starch item
 - 2726 Miscellaneous meats with starch item
 - 273 Meat, poultry, fish with starch item and vegetables
 - 2731 Beef with starch and vegetable (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread; Puerto Rican)
 - 2732 Pork with starch and vegetable
 - 2733 Lamb, veal, game with starch and vegetable
 - 2734 Poultry with starch and vegetable (potatoes; noodles; rice; bread; Puerto Rican)
 - 2735 Fish, shellfish with starch and vegetable
 - 2736 Miscellaneous meats with starch and vegetable
 - 274 Meat, poultry, fish with vegetables (excluding white potatoes)
 - 2741 Beef with vegetable, no potatoes
 - 2742 Pork with vegetable, no potatoes
 - 2743 Lamb, veal, game with vegetable, no potatoes
 - 2744 Poultry with vegetables, no potatoes
 - 2745 Fish, shellfish with vegetables, no potatoes
 - 2746 Miscellaneous meats with vegetable, no potatoes
 - 275 Sandwiches with meat, poultry, fish

- 2751 Beef sandwiches
- 2752 Pork sandwiches
- 2754 Poultry sandwiches
- 2755 Fish, shellfish sandwiches
- 2756 Frankfurters, luncheon meat, potted meat sandwiches
- 2757 Hors d'oeuvres, finger sandwiches
- 276 Meat, poultry, fish with nonmeat items baby food
- 2761 Beef mixtures baby food
- 2764 Poultry mixtures baby food

28 *Frozen and shelf-stable plate meals, soups, and gravies with meat, poultry, fish base; gelatin and gelatin-based drinks*

- 281 Frozen or shelf-stable plate meals with meat, poultry, fish as major ingredient
 - 2811 Beef frozen or shelf-stable meals
 - 2812 Pork or ham frozen or shelf-stable meals
 - 2813 Veal frozen or shelf-stable meals
 - 2814 Poultry frozen or shelf-stable meals
 - 2815 Fish, shellfish frozen meals
 - 2816 Miscellaneous meat frozen or shelf-stable meals
- 283 Soups, broths, extracts from meat, poultry, fish base
 - 2831 Beef soups
 - 2832 Pork soups
 - 2833 Lamb soups
 - 2834 Poultry, soups
 - 28345 Poultry cream soups
 - 2835 Fish, shellfish soups
 - 2836 Puerto Rican soups
- 284 Gelatin and gelatin-based meal supplements
- 285 Gravies from meat, poultry, fish base

3 Eggs

31 Eggs

- 311 Chicken eggs
- 312 Other poultry eggs

32 Egg mixtures

- 321 Egg dishes
- 322 Egg sandwiches
- 323 Egg soups
- 324 Meringues

33 Egg substitutes

- 330 Egg substitute, NS as to form
- 331 Egg substitute, from powdered mixture
- 332 Egg substitute, from frozen mixture
- 333 Egg substitute, from liquid mixture

35 Frozen plate meals with egg as major ingredient

- 350 Frozen plate meals with egg as major ingredient

4 Dry Beans, Peas, Other Legumes, Nuts, and Seeds

41 Legumes

- 411 Dried beans
- 412 Dried beans mixtures
- 413 Dried peas, lentils, and mixtures
- 414 Soybean derived products (excluding milks)
- 415 Frozen plate meals with legumes as major ingredient
- 416 Soups with legumes as major ingredient
- 418 Meat substitutes, mainly legume protein
- 419 Meat substitute sandwiches

42 Nuts, nut butters, and nut mixtures

- 421 Nuts
- 422 Nut butters
- 423 Nut butter sandwiches
- 424 Coconut beverages
- 425 Nut mixtures

43 Seeds and seed mixtures

- 431 Seeds

44 Carob products

- 441 Carob powder, flour
- 442 Carob chips, syrup

5 Grain Products

50 Flour and dry mixes

500 Flour and dry mixes

51 Yeast breads, rolls

510 Breads, rolls, NFS

511 White breads, rolls

512 Whole wheat breads, rolls

513 Wheat, cracked wheat breads, rolls

514 Rye breads, rolls

515 Oat breads

516 Multigrain breads, rolls

518 Other breads

52 Quick breads

521 Biscuits

522 Cornbread, corn muffins, tortillas

523 Other muffins, popovers

524 Other quick breads

53 Cakes, cookies, pies, pastries

531 Cakes

532 Cookies

533 Pies (fruit pies; pie tarts; cream, custard, and chiffon pies; miscellaneous pies; pie shells)

534 Cobblers, eclairs, turnovers, other pastries

535 Danish, breakfast pastries, doughnuts, granola bars

536 Coffee cake, not yeast

54 Crackers and salty snacks from grain products

540 Crackers, NS as to type

541 Sweet crackers

542 Low sodium crackers

543 Nonsweet crackers

544 Salty snacks from grain products

55 Pancakes, waffles, french toast, other grain products

551 Pancakes

552 Waffles

553 French toast

554 Crepes

555 Flour-water patties

556 Flour-milk patties

557 Rice flour cakes

558 Funnel cakes

56 Pastas, cooked cereals, rice

561 Pastas

562 Cooked cereals, rice

57 Cereals, not cooked or NS as to cooked

- 570 Cereal, NS as to cooked
- 571 Ready-to-eat cereals
- 572 Ready-to-eat cereals
- 573 Ready-to-eat cereals
- 574 Ready-to-eat cereals
- 576 Cereal grains, not cooked
- 578 Cereals baby food
- 58 *Grain mixtures, frozen plate meals, soups***
 - 581 Mixtures, mainly grain, pasta, or bread
 - 582 Mixtures, mainly grain, pasta, or bread
 - 583 Frozen plate meals with grain mixture as major ingredient
 - 584 Soups with grain product as major ingredient
 - 585 Grain mixtures baby food
- 59 *Meat substitutes, mainly cereal protein***
 - 590 Meat substitutes, mainly cereal protein

6 Fruits

61 *Citrus fruits, juices*

- 611 Citrus fruits
- 612 Citrus fruit juices

62 *Dried fruits*

- 621 Dried fruits

63 *Other fruits*

- 631 Fruits, excluding berries
- 632 Berries
- 633 Mixtures of two or more fruits
- 634 Mixtures of fruits and nonfruit items

64 *Fruit juices and nectars excluding citrus*

- 641 Fruit juices, excluding citrus
- 642 Nectars
- 644 Vinegar

67 *Fruits and juices baby food*

- 671 Fruits and fruit mixtures baby food
- 672 Fruit juice and fruit juice mixtures baby food
- 673 Fruits with cereal baby food
- 674 Fruit desserts and fruit-flavored puddings and yogurt desserts baby food
- 675 Fruits with meat or poultry baby food
- 676 Fruits and vegetables mixtures baby food

7 **Vegetables**

71 *White potatoes and Puerto Rican starchy vegetables*

- 710 White potatoes, NFS
- 711 White potatoes, baked and boiled
- 712 White potatoes, chips and sticks
- 713 White potatoes, creamed, scalloped, au gratin
- 714 White potatoes, fried
- 715 White potatoes, mashed, stuffed, puffs
- 716 Potato salad
- 717 Potato recipes
- 718 Potato soups
- 719 Puerto Rican starchy vegetables

72 *Dark-green vegetables*

- 721 Dark-green leafy vegetables
- 722 Dark-green nonleafy vegetables
- 723 Dark-green vegetable soups

73 *Deep-yellow vegetables*

- 731 Carrots
- 732 Pumpkin
- 733 Squash, winter
- 734 Sweetpotatoes
- 735 Deep-yellow vegetable soups

74 *Tomatoes and tomato mixtures*

- 741 Tomatoes, raw
- 742 Tomatoes, cooked
- 743 Tomato juices
- 744 Tomato sauces
- 745 Tomato mixtures
- 746 Tomato soups
- 747 Tomato sandwiches

75 *Other vegetables*

- 751 Other vegetables, raw
 - 7514 Raw vegetable mixtures
- 752 Other vegetables, cooked
- 753 Other vegetable mixtures, cooked
- 754 Other cooked vegetables, cooked with sauces, batters, casseroles
- 755 Olives, pickles, relishes (excluding tomatoes)
- 756 Vegetable soups

76 *Vegetables and mixtures mostly vegetables baby food*

- 761 Dark-green vegetables baby food
- 762 Deep-yellow vegetables baby food
- 764 Vegetables other than dark-green, deep-yellow, and tomato baby food
- 765 Vegetables with grain baby food
- 766 Vegetables with meat baby food

77 *Vegetables with meat, poultry, fish*

771 White potato with meat, poultry, fish (mixtures)

772 Puerto Rican starchy vegetable (viandas) mixtures

773 Other vegetable mixtures

775 Puerto Rican stews or soups with starchy vegetables (viandas)

78 *Mixtures mostly vegetables without meat, poultry, fish*

781 Vegetable and fruit juice blends, 100% juice

8 Fats, Oils, and Salad Dressings

81 *Fats*

- 811 Table fats
- 812 Cooking fats
- 813 Other fats

82 *Oils*

- 821 Vegetable oils

83 *Salad dressings*

- 831 Regular salad dressings
- 832 Low-calorie and reduced calorie salad dressings

9 Sugars, Sweets, and Beverages

91 *Sugars and sweets*

- 911 Sugars and sugar-sugar substitute blends
- 912 Sugar replacements or substitute
- 913 Syrups, honey, molasses, sweet toppings
- 914 Jellies, jams, preserves
- 915 Gelatin desserts or salads
- 916 Ices or popsicles
- 917 Candies
- 918 Chewing gums

92 *Nonalcoholic beverages*

- 921 Coffee
- 922 Coffee substitutes
- 923 Tea
- 924 Soft drinks, carbonated
- 925 Fruit drinks
 - 9251 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks
 - 9252 Group Discontinued as of 12/31/2004; previously described as "Fruitades and drinks, low calorie, NS as to vitamin c content"
 - 9253 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks with high vitamin C
 - 9254 Fruit flavored drinks, made from powdered mix
 - 9255 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks, low calorie
 - 9256 Sports drinks and thirst quencher beverages
 - 9257 Beverages, fluid replacement
 - 9258 Fruit juice drinks and fruit flavored drinks, fortified with calcium
- 926 Beverages, nonfruit
 - 9265 Beverages, nonfruit, fortified (include energy drinks)
- 927 Group Discontinued as of 12/31/2004; previously described as "Beverages, noncarbonated, without vitamin C, made from powdered mixes"
- 928 Nonalcoholic beers, wines, cocktails
- 929 Beverage concentrates, dry, not reconstituted

93 *Alcoholic beverages*

- 931 Beers and ales
- 932 Cordials and liqueurs
- 933 Cocktails
- 934 Wines
- 935 Distilled liquors

94 *Water, noncarbonated*

- 940 Water, not bottled
- 941 Water, bottled
- 942 Water, bottled, fortified